

**SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, July 11, 2022 4:30 P.M.

City Hall, Room 400, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONERS

Sharky Laguana, President, Miriam Zouzounis, Vice-President;
Tiffany Carter, Lawanda Dickerson; Rachel Herbert; Cynthia Huie; William Ortiz-Cartagena;

1. Call to order and roll call

Present: Carter, Dickerson, Hebert, Huie, Laguana, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis. Meeting called to order at 4:30pm.

2. BOS File #220538 – Public Works Graffiti Abatement Pilot Program (Discussion and Action Item)

Jennifer Feiber, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Melgar, introduced the Graffiti Abatement Pilot Program which would allow commercial property owners to opt into graffiti cleanup/removal conducted and paid for by the City. There is funding for this pilot. Sign up would be on a rolling basis.

Commissioner Comments:

Laguana: Noted that this follows our previous resolutions so SBC is excited to see it.

Carter: Asked would this apply to commercial corridors only? Yes.

Ortiz-Cartagena: How to ensure parity and that all neighborhoods are included? Jennifer noted that they could work on a regular route that covers all neighborhoods, and if graffiti is unaddressed businesses can work with Supervisor's office to note areas that are not being maintained.

Laguana: Suggested the DPW cleanup route be informed by 311 reports.

Public Comment: Janet Tarlov, CDMA and Glen Park Merchants Assoc. Spoke in support.

Motion: Laguana 2nd: Dickerson

Carter, Dickerson, Hebert, Huie, Laguana, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

3. Street Vendor Permit Program Update (Discussion Item)

Nicolas Huff, Gregory Slocum, and Michael Lennon (Department of Public Works) gave an update on the Street Vendor Permit Program including information on outreach efforts, application development, and a potential timeline for implementation – likely fall. They noted that there is no longer an insurance requirement. Fee would likely be \$400 and there will be a fee waiver and reductions available to certain groups.

Commissioner Comments:

Ortiz-Cartagena: Noted that it's great insurance is no longer needed. Asked about a scenario in which a person is not permitted (once program begins) - what's the recourse? They would asked to relocate, then fined/confiscated belongings. Enforcement would be through DPW and SFPD. He asked about the possibility of a bunch of people working under one business, which DPW said was not possible because each permit is associated with a photo.

Huie: Expressed concern that a vendor could set up in front of a brick and mortar and sell similar products. What's the recourse? DPW noted that as long as they meet accessibility guidelines and have a permit, they could potentially do that.

Zouzounis: wondered if there was a way to build collaboration between vendors and brick and mortars to support each other. DPW said they were working with OEWD.

Laguana: compared the street vendor permit to the display permits available to business owners.

Tang: is street are rolling into this? DPW: yes.

No members of the public requested to speak.

4. Shared Spaces Program Update (Discussion Item)

Robin Abad (SF Planning Department), Monica Munowitch (SF Municipal Transportation Agency), Kaitlyn Acevedo, Gregory Slocum (SF Department of Public Works) reviewed the Shared Spaces Program, including grant opportunities, outreach, and program timelines.

Commissioner comments:

Ortiz-Cartagena: Thanked the team for all their work

Laguana: Also thanked the team and loved the translations. Confirmed that the bill of health for each business is indeed happening.

Zouzounis: requested data on the types of retail that have shared spaces – restaurant vs. Retail, etc. Asked about dropoff/pick up zones. SFMTA confirmed program is still available to those who want it.

No members of the public requested to speak.

5. Office of Small Business Budget Update #2 (Discussion Item)

Katy Tang, Director, Office of Small Business and Kate Sofis, Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development reviewed department funding and future projects for the 22-23 fiscal year.

Commissioner Comments:

Zouzounis: Happy to see a staff person dedicated to tracking vacancies. She'd also like to see more outreach to diverse merchant groups.

Carter: Asked how OEWD is working with planning to fill downtown vacancies? Director Sofis noted that they need to rethink the Union Square retail model, look into sub dividing lots to open them up to smaller merchants.

Huie: Asked if OEWD oversaw SF Travel? They are a separate org but work together a lot. She also noted that people may want to work in neighborhood coworking spaces – are we looking into the zoning for that?

Ortiz-Cartagena: Noted that the vacancy specialist in the Mission has been hugely helpful.

Huie: Suggested that the City look into incentivizing daycares to lure workers back.

Zouzounis: requested a career fair specifically for small businesses.

Herbert: Asked what we can do to improve transportation to get workers around. Also asked about citywide events like SXSW.

Public comment: one caller, name unknown.

6. Resolution Making Findings To Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953(E) (Discussion and Action Item)

Motion: Laguana 2nd: Carter

Carter, Dickerson, Hebert, Huie, Laguana, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis (motion passes)

7. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes 6.13.2022 (Discussion and Action Item)

Motion: Laguana 2nd: Zouzounis

Carter, Dickerson, Hebert, Huie, Laguana, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis (motion passes)

8. General Public Comment (Discussion Item)

No members of the public requested to speak.

9. Director's Report (Discussion Item)

Director Tang shared draft OSB/SBC Priorities and goals for commissioners to review based on the feedback from our retreat.

No members of the public requested to speak.

10. Commissioner Discussion and New Business (Discussion Item)

Laguana: mentioned that the Sunset Mercantile Farmers Market was having trouble with their street closures and may need help in the future.

Huie: Has been developing toolkits to help merchants organize and host events in their neighborhoods.

No members of the public requested to speak.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm